



THE CARIBBEAN BASIN SECURITY INITIATIVE



A Shared Regional Security Partnership



The Dominican Republic is partnering with the other nations of the Caribbean and the United States to combat the drug trade and other transnational crime that threatens regional security. This shared security partnership, the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI), fulfills the commitment to deepen regional security cooperation that President Barack Obama made at the Fifth Summit of the Americas, held in Port of Spain, Trinidad, in April 2009.

Enhancing Citizen Safety

CBSI complements other citizen safety initiatives between the United States and other partners in the hemisphere. CBSI will increase citizen safety throughout the Caribbean by working together to:

- Substantially reduce illicit trafficking
- Increase public safety and security
- Promote social justice

Regional Cooperation

Participating nations worked together for more than a year to develop CBSI. In meetings, which leadership of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Dominican Republic facilitated, we assessed strategies to combat transnational crime and the root causes of crime and violence. Together, CBSI partnering nations adopted a Declaration of Principles, Plan of Action, and Framework for Security Cooperation at the inaugural Caribbean-U.S. Security Cooperation Dialogue held in Washington, D.C. in May 2010.

We will continue this dialogue through technical working groups to coordinate local, national, and regional security and crime prevention activities and policies. These working groups will ensure effective and efficient implementation of programs, identify future program and policy needs, and inform policymakers at the 2nd annual Caribbean-U.S. Security Cooperation Dialogue in 2011.

United States Support Under CBSI

The United States will provide more than \$45 million to support CBSI in 2010. In addition, the Obama Administration has requested \$79 million to continue support for CBSI in 2011. This funding will complement non-monetary policy support the United States has committed to this multi-year partnership.

U.S. funding and programs complement those of our Caribbean partners. These programs were developed in response to those concerns and priorities discussed during our initial meetings, build on existing partnerships and prepare for future cooperation, and

meet objectives described in the CBSI Joint Plan of Action.

The first fiscal year of CBSI funding includes approximately \$5 million for programs in the Dominican Republic, to include:

- Region-wide assessments aimed at improving ongoing programs focused on first offenders and other at-risk youth, good governance, anti-corruption, community policing, and youth education
- Complementary education alternatives for Dominican youth, including flexible learning models and literacy campaigns
- Training in basic employment and vocational skills in the areas of tourism, agriculture, and the computer sciences for at-risk youth

CBSI Complements Other U.S. Assistance

The U.S. commitment to the Dominican Republic and to the CBSI partnership extends beyond the CBSI funding described above. Over the past two years (FY2009 and FY2010), the U.S. has committed \$9.5 million in bilateral security assistance, as well as support for the following:

- Joint training programs with the Dominican military to enhance its ability to fight terrorism, drug trafficking, and illegal immigration
- Funding for health care programs on HIV/AIDS prevention, tuberculosis, and maternal and child health
- Assistance to the Public Prosecutor's Office, the judiciary, the National Police, and the Public Defender's Office in implementing the criminal procedures code, prosecuting crimes more effectively, reducing corruption, and making justice services more accessible, timely, and responsive
- Advancing economic development and trade, such as helping potential exporters to diversify crops, increase productivity, identify new markets for sustainable tourism and agriculture, and develop marketing strategies for local and international trade
- Supporting, via grants and expertise, local efforts to combat trafficking in persons and sex-related crimes

The United States looks forward to continued cooperation with its Caribbean partners to strengthen the CBSI partnership. More information is available at: www.state.gov/p/wha/rt/cbsi